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AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

EMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

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E.C. 12356: DECL: 04/JAN/93

TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

REF: KABUL 0065

1. (U) FOR ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI: YOU MAY WISH TO  
DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING TO BRIEF PRESS.

2. SUMMARY:

A. (U) TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS: SOVIET AND RA UNITS

INVOLVED IN RE-SUPPLY OPERATIONS FOR FORCES FIGHTING IN  
THE KHOST AREA ARE ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTY ON THE TWO  
PRINCIPAL ROUTES LEADING SOUTH FROM KABUL. SOVIET AND

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RA UNITS ATTEMPTING TO MOVE SOUTH ON THE LOGAR ROAD FROM KAPUL MUST RUN A GAUNTLET OF MUJAHIDIN CHECKPOINTS. SOURCES REPORT NUMEROUS AMBUSHES ON THE ROUTE OVER THE LAST TEN DAYS. MUJAHIDIN, REPORTEDLY INCLUDING SOME ELEMENTS SENT BY AHMED SHAH MASSOUD FROM HIS NORTHERN COMMAND, SIMILARLY HAVE BEEN ATTACKING CONVOYS ON THE KAPUL TO GHAZNI ROAD. IN KHOST, RECENT VISITORS REPORT EXTENSIVE ARTILLERY DAMAGE TO THE TOWNS BUILDINGS. DESTRUCTION OF ALL VILLAGES ON THE GARDEZ-TO-KHOST ROAD, INCLUDING DELIBERATE SOVIET DEMOLISHING OF VILLAGES HASTILY EVACUATED PRIOR TO THE FIGHTING, UNDERSCORES THE COST OF THE CAMPAIGN IN HUMAN TERMS. REGIME TROOPS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED CARRYING GOODS PLUNDERED FROM THE ABANDONED AND DEMOLISHED VILLAGES BACK TO KAPUL. IN THE KAPUL AREA, FIGHTING CONTINUED TO THE NORTH AND WEST. MUJAHIDIN PRESSURE ON THE CAPITAL DIMINISHED SOMEWHAT DURING THE WEEK. MUJAHIDIN REPORTEDLY DOWNED FOUR

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AIRCRAFT IN PARWAN AND THREE IN WARDAK SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. SOVIET AND REGIME FORCES HAVE LAUNCHED A MAJOR NEW OPERATION AGAINST THE MAHALAJAT AREA AND APPEAR TO BE ATTEMPTING TO SEAL IT OFF. SOVIET FORCES THERE REPORTEDLY HAVE SUFFERED SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO THEIR ARMOR UNITS DUE TO MUJAHIDIN MINES. IN GHAZNI, SOVIET FORCES, ACCORDING TO MULTIPLE SOURCES, DESTROYED TWO BUSES, KILLING MANY CIVILIANS. THE GOVERNOR OF

BAGHLAN PROVINCE AND THE PROVINCIAL PARTY CHIEF REPORTEDLY HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED IN BAGHLAN CITY. FIGHTING IS ALSO REPORTED IN ZABOL AND NANGARHAR. THE REGIME HAS SENT ANOTHER GROUP OF CONSCRIPTED YOUTH FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK TO KANDAHAR. IN KAPUL, REGIME PRESSGANG OPERATIONS CONTINUE. THE REGIME HAS CEASED INFORMING PARENTS OF THEIR SONS' WHEREABOUTS FOLLOWING THEIR SEIZURE BY PRESSGANGS. A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT CLAIMS A PARTY PLENUM MAY SHORTLY BE CONVENED. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT THE PDPA WILL ACCEPT MANY NEW MEMBERS INTO THE PARTY AND PROMOTE SOME SENIOR PERSONNEL TO HIGHER POSITIONS. THE KAPUL MEDIA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF GENEVA PROXIMITY TALKS WILL CONVEY FEBRUARY 22. THE AFGHANI CONTINUES TO DEPRECIATE AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR AND OTHER FOREIGN CURRENCIES, LOSING THREE PERCENT OF ITS VALUE AGAINST THE DOLLAR OVER THE PAST WEEK.

B. (C) NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS: IRAN REPORTEDLY IS SOFTENING ITS OPPOSITION TO PDPA PARTICIPATION IN A POST-WITHDRAWAL KAPUL GOVERNMENT. ESMATULLAH MUSLIM REPORTEDLY REFUSED TO ACCEPT A SOVIET-ENGINEERED APCLOGY BY NAJIBULLAH FOR A SHOOTOUT IN KAPUL THAT

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WOUNDED HIM AND KILLED SEVERAL OF HIS MEN. KHOST  
CASUALTY FIGURES SUGGEST A RATIO OF SOVIET/REGIME  
DEAD TO MUJAHIDIN DEAD IS ALMOST FIVE-TO-ONE IN  
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E.O. 12356: DECT: 04/JAN/83

TAGS: PREL, MCPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SRYF,

ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

FAVOR OF THE MUJAHIDIN: THE KHOST PCPULATION

REPORTEDLY IS ANGRY OVER MUJAHIDIN AGGRESSIVENESS

WHICH PROMPTED A DEVASTATING SCVIET RESPONSE.

END SUMMARY.

3. (U) KABUL CITY DEVELOPMENTS: MUJAHIDIN PRESSURE ON  
THE CITY DIMINISHED SLIGHTLY DURING THE WEEK WITH FOUR  
LIKELY ROCKET ATTACKS, TWO INCIDENTS OF SHOOTING IN THE  
CITY AND TWO UNEXPLAINED EXPLOSIONS REPORTED. TWO CR

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THREE SOVIET TROOPS DISAPPEARED IN DARULAMAN AND HAVE NOT BEEN LOCATED. MUJAHIDIN ARE SUSPECTED OF HAVING KILNAPPED THEM. SECURITY IN THE CITY REMAINED TIGHT WITH ROVING SOVIET ARMOR PATROLS, SEVERAL NIGHTS OF HELICOPTER SURVEILLANCE AND GENERALLY AGGRESSIVE RA SECURITY CHECKPOINTS. SOVIET SENTRIES CONTROLLING TRAFFIC DURING MAJOR CONVOY MOVEMENTS THROUGH TOWN CONTINUE TO BE UNUSUALLY AGGRESSIVE. IN A LATE REPORT NOT INCLUDED REFTEL, ORDNANCE, EITHER ROCKETS OR MORTAR ROUNDS, STRUCK NEAR THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY JANUARY 9, PROMPTING OUTGOING SOVIET ARTILLERY FIRE DIRECTED AT HILLS NORTH AND WEST OF THE CITY. SOURCES REPORTED THE FOLLOWING INCIDENTS:

-- JANUARY 17: IN THE PRE-DAWN HOURS, AFGHAN RESIDENTS OF NORTH KABUL HEARD HEAVY MACHINE GUN FIRE IN KHAIR KHANA PASS. TWO POSSIBLE INCOMING ROCKETS AT 2152 WERE REPORTED. THEY WERE FOLLOWED BY THREE SALVOS OF OUTGOING MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER FIRE TARGETED TO THE

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NORTH NORTHEAST AT 2254 AND AGAIN AT 2259.

-- JANUARY 16: DIPLOMATS REPORT HEAVY OUTGOING MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER FIRE AND ARTILLERY THROUGH MUCH OF THE EVENING, POSSIBLY PROMPTED BY INCOMING ROCKETS MID-EVENING.

-- JANUARY 15: TWO OR THREE SOVIET SOLDIERS WERE REPORTED MISSING IN THE DARULAMAN AREA. DURING THE DAY,

SOVIET AND RA SECURITY PERSONNEL CONDUCTED HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SEARCHES FOR THE MISSING PERSONNEL WITHOUT RESULTS. AFGHANS SUSPECT THAT THE PERSONNEL WERE KILNAPPED BY MUJAHIDIN.

-- JANUARY 14: AFGHANS REPORT THREE ROCKETS STRUCK NEAR KHAIR KHANA PASS AT 0230. DIPLOMATS HEARD TWO MORE ROCKETS, POSSIBLY STRIKING KHAIR KHANA AT 0255. ARTILLERY IN THE AREA RESPONDED WITH OUTGOING FIRE THAT CONTINUED UNTIL 0515. AT 1530, DIPLOMATS NOTED AN EXPLOSION ON THE EAST FACE OF KOH-I-ASMAI (TELEVISION HILL). DIPLOMATS REPORT PROTRACTED SMALL ARMS FIRE IN SHARE NAU BETWEEN 2030 AND 2100. ONE SOURCE BELIEVES THE SHOOTING WAS FROM TWO POINTS, SUGGESTING A SHOOTOUT.

-- JANUARY 13: AN EXPLOSION PROBABLY CAUSED BY AN INCOMING ROCKET WOKE DIPLOMATS IN SHARE NAU AT 0345. DURING THE EVENING, DIPLOMATS OBSERVED HEAVY MACHINE GUN FIRE IN THE KHAIR KHANA PASS AREA. MOST OF THE SHOOTING ORIGINATED FROM THE EAST SIDE OF THE PASS. EXPLOSIONS ACCOMPANIED THE FIRING.

-- JANUARY 11: AN EXPLOSION AT 0500 ON THE EAST SIDE OF KOH-I-ASMAI REPORTEDLY KILLED SEVEN.

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E.O. 12356: DECL: 04/JAN/93

TAGS: FREL, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

49 (U) KABUL PROVINCE DEVELOPMENTS: DIPLOMATS

OBSERVATIONS CONFIRM AFGHAN REPORTS OF HEAVY FIGHTING IN  
THE SHOMALI, NORTH OF KABUL AND TO THE WEST IN THE

PAGHMAN AREA. LOCAL SOURCES, INCLUDING MILITARY  
SOURCES, CONTINUE TO REPORT THAT MUJAHIDIN REMAIN IN THE  
PAGHMAN AREA AND HAVE NOT LEFT FOR THE WINTER AS THEY  
GENERALLY HAVE DONE IN THE PAST.

A. KABUL WEST: A RELIABLE AFGHAN REPORTS HEAVY  
FIGHTING IN THE CHAWKI ARGANDEN AREA SOUTH OF KABUL

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LAKE CN JANUARY 14. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A SOVIET/VRA POST NEAR THE SOUTHERN ROAD TO PAGESMAN. ON JANUARY 15, DIPLOMATS HEARD ARTILLERY FIRE NORTHWEST AND SOUTHWEST OF KARGHA LAKE DURING THE MORNING. AFTER TONIGHT ON BOTH JANUARY 13 AND 14, DIPLOMATS REPORT ARTILLERY FIRE TO THE WEST AT ABOUT 0400.

P. KABUL NCRTE: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES IN THE SHOMALI. FIGHTING CONTINUES IN SHAKA DARREH, GUL DARREH AND MIR BACHA KOWT. OVERNIGHT, JANUARY 13-14, OUTGOING MORTAR FIRE FROM APPROXIMATELY 2300 TO 0100 APPEARED TO BE DIRECTED AT KAREZ-I-MIR.

5. (U) LOGAR: MUJAHIDIN PRESSURE ON THE LOGAR ROAD CONTINUED TO MOUNT THIS WEEK AS SOVIET AND RA CONVOYS TRYING TO SUPPORT OPERATIONS IN THE KHOST AND GARDEZ.

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AREA WERE FORCED TO RUN THE LOGAR ROAD GAUNTLET.  
MUJAHIDIN, REPORTED PREVIOUSLY AS MOVING INTO THE AREA TO ASSIST FORCES BATTLING TO THE SOUTH, ARE SAID TO BE PARTICULARLY STRONG IN THE KOLANGAR AND NAMANYOS AREAS (34°02'N 69°01'E AND 34°22'N 69°08'E, RESPECTIVELY).  
AFGHANS AND DIPLOMATS REPORTED THE FOLLOWING INCIDENTS:  
-- JANUARY 12: MUJAHIDIN AMBUSHED A SOVIET CONVOY TEN KMS SOUTH OF CHAHAR ASIAB. THE NORTH-BOUND CONVOY WAS FORCED TO RETURN TO GARDEZ. THE MUJAHIDIN ALSO AMBUSHED

A REGIME CONVOY AT THE PUL-I-KADRI (BRIDGE) IN THE BANI HAR AFGHAN AREA. MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED TWO TANKS, ONE ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER AND ONE MILITARY TRUCK IN THE OPERATION. THEY TOOK MUCH OF THE SUPPLIES FROM 60 TRANSPORT TRUCKS IN THE COLUMN WHICH WAS DESTINED FOR KHCST. SOME MUJAHIDIN WAS KILLED IN THE OPERATION AND 529 WOUNDED.

-- JANUARY 11: MUJAHIDIN AMBUSHED A SOVIET/RA CONVOY NORTH OF PARAKI BARAK ON THE LOGAR ROAD. THE ATTACKING MUJAHIDIN DESTROYED SEVEN ARMORED VEHICLES AND KILLED OR CAPTURED MANY RA TROOPS.

JANUARY 8-9: A DIPLOMAT REPORTS THAT A STINGER WAS USED TO DOWN AN AIRCRAFT IN THE ZARGHUN SHAHR AREA ON JANUARY 8 OR 9.

-- JANUARY 6: AN RA TRUCK CARRYING TROOPS HIT A MUJAHIDIN MINE ON THE MAIN LOGAR ROAD NORTH OF PUL-I-AIAM. THE INCIDENT RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF 11 RA TROOPS AND THE WOUNDING OF THREE.

6. (U) PAKTIA: ALTHOUGH THE REGIME REPORTEDLY IS PREPARING A CELEBRATION TO MARK THE END OF THE SIEGE AT  
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THE EAST SIDE OF THE ROAD FROM GARDEZ TO KHOST. NO CIVILIANS OR LIVESTOCK ARE TO BE SEEN, THOUGH FIELDS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN FRESHLY CULTIVATED SUGGESTING VERY RECENT EVACUATION. AFGHAN REPORTS CLAIM THAT RA UNITS RETURNING TO KABUL ARE CARRYING LOOT FROM THE HOMES OF THE HASTILY EVACUATED VILLAGES ALONG THE ROUTE. SOVIET TROOPS REMAIN IN FORCE ALONG THE ROAD AND AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE MANY VALLEYS. A RELIABLE NON-AFGHAN SOURCE COUNTED OVER 100 T-62 (SOVIET) TANKS ON THE ROAD BETWEEN GARDEZ AND KHOST. SOVIET FORCES ARE NOT INSIDE KHOST TOWN IN SIGNIFICANT NUMBERS. DAMAGE TO THE TOWN FROM ARTILLERY FIRE IS EXTENSIVE. MUJAHIDIN CONTINUE TO ROCKET THE TOWN, MOST RECENTLY ON JANUARY 13 WHEN ROCKETS STRUCK NEAR AN RA GARRISON BARRACKS AREA. SUPPLIES REACHING THE KHOST AREA BY ROAD ARE STILL LARGELY MILITARY PROVISIONS. DIPLOMATS HAVE OBSERVED MASSIVE SOVIET AND RA MILITARY SUPPLY CONVOYS, INCLUDING LENGTHY AMMUNITION AND ROCKET CONVOYS AS WELL AS SOVIET ARMORED COLUMNS, MOVING SOUTH ON THE LOGAR ROAD DURING

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THE WEEK. AFGHANS REPORT THAT ADDITIONAL SOVIET TRCOPS ALSO HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE FIGHTING. MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY TROOPS (WAD, -MORE WIDELY KNOWN AS KHAD) ARE

MOVING IN TO THE AREA IN SUPPORT OF RA UNITS. MUJAHIDIN CONTINUE TO HOLD POSITIONS IN THE HILLS AND MOUNTAINS AROUND KHOST. DIPLOMATIC AND AFGHAN REPORTS CLAIM THAT NORTHERN COMMANDER MASSOUD HAS SENT TROOPS TO ASSIST THOUGH ACCORDING TO AN AFGHAN REPORT, THESE TROOPS ARE TARGETTED AGAINST SOVIET AND RA CONVOYS ATTEMPTING TO MOVE ALONG THE GHAZNI ROAD FROM KABUL TO GARDEZ AND HAVE NOT BEEN ENGAGED IN THE FIGHTING IN PAKTIA ITSELF. SOVIET FORCES MEANWHILE, REPORTEDLY ARE ATTEMPTING TO OUTFLANK THE MUJAHIDIN BY MOVING SOUTH FROM ALI KHEYL (33°57'N 69°43'E). MAJOR CONVOY MOVEMENT FROM KABUL TOWARD PAKTIA INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: JANUARY 17: SEVERAL HUNDRED SOVIET AMMUNITION AND ROCKET TRANSPORT TRUCKS HEADED SOUTH-FROM KABUL; JANUARY 16: A MAJOR RA CONVOY LEFT THE SHEERPUR BARRACKS AT 0400 HEADED SOUTH, FOLLOWED BY A SOVIET ARMOR COLUMN INCLUDING SEVERAL HUNDRED VEHICLES AT 0830; JANUARY 12: AN RA CONVOY MOVED SOUTH FROM KABUL AT 0400, FOLLOWED AT 0730 BY A SOVIET AMMUNITION AND FUEL CONVOY WHICH WAS UNDER HEAVY SOVIET ARMORED VEHICLE ESCORT.

7. (U) KANDAHAR: KANDAFARI RESIDENTS REPORT SOVIET AND REGIME FORCES IN EARLY JANUARY LAUNCHED A NEW CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE MUJAHIDIN STRONGHOLD IN THE MAHALLAJAT AREA. SOVIET FORCES, COMPRISING A UNIT DRAWN FROM SHINDAND AND ONE FROM THE BASE AT KANDAHAR AIR BASE, JOINED BY REGIME UNITS FROM MOCOR AND FROM THE 5TH..

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RA DIVISION ARE ATTEMPTING TO SEAL OFF MAHALLAJAT.  
AFTER TEN DAYS OF FIGHTING KANLAHARIS REPORT, THE FORCES  
HAD NOT SUCCEEDED IN COMPLETELY SEALING THE WESTERN RIM  
OF THE AREA OR IN PREVENTING THE FLOW OF FOOD AND OTHER

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SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

SUPPLIES FROM THE CITY AT NIGHT. SOVIET FORCES HAVE

USED EXTENSIVE ARMOR DEPLOYMENTS AS MOBILE ARTILLERY BUT

HAVE LOST MANY TANKS AND OTHER ARMORED VEHICLES TO

MUJAHIDIN MINES. SOVIET AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED TO  
FIRE ROCKETS INTO THE AREA BUT GENERALLY FIRE FROM OVER  
KANDAHAR CITY OR ELSEWHERE OUTSIDE OF MAHALLAJAT DUE TO  
FEAR OF MUJAHIDIN ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS. AERIAL  
BOMBARDMENT OF MAHALLAJAT AND NEARBY ZANGAWAT HAS BEEN  
HEAVY THOUGH THESE STRIKES ARE CONFINED TO THE

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NIGHTTIME, AGAIN BECAUSE OF THE FEAR OF MUJAHIDIN ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS. THE BOMBING, ACCORDING TO SOURCES FROM THE AREA, IS LARGELY INEFFECTIVE BECAUSE MUJAHIDIN SIMPLY GO UNDERGROUND WHEN THE BOMBING BEGINS. IN THE KANDAHAR AREA, MANY HOUSES TRADITIONALLY ARE CONSTRUCTED WITH AN UNDERGROUND ROOM USED IN THE SUMMER FOR SLEEPING TO AVOID HIGH TEMPERATURES. THE ROOMS REPORTEDLY SERVE AS IDEAL BOMB SHELTERS. ADDITIONAL MUJAHIDIN REPORTEDLY HAVE MOVED INTO THE AREA TO ASSIST THOSE IN MAHALLAJAT. (COMMENT: THE SOVIET EFFORT TO FORCE MUJAHIDIN OUT OF MAHALLAJAT, A TRADITIONAL STRONGHOLD FROM WHICH MUJAHIDIN EXERT PRESSURE ON REGIME AND SOVIET FORCES IN THE KANDAHAR AREA, MAY REFLECT A SOVIET INTENT TO CONSOLIDATE, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE REGIME POSITION IN THE KANDAHAR AREA BEFORE ANY STANDDOWN IN THE FIGHTING WHICH COULD ARISE FROM A SUCCESSFUL SESSION IN THE PROXIMITY TALKS.) IN NEARBY PANJWAI, AFGHANS FROM THE AREA CLAIM THE REGIME CONTROLS ONLY THE DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS.

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SIMILARLY, IN ARGHANDAB, WEST OF KANDAHAR, THE REGIME CONTROLS ONLY THE CENTRAL POST ENABLING MUJAHIDIN TO OPERATE WITH IMPUNITY IN THE REST OF THE DISTRICT.

MUJAHIDIN CONTINUE TO PENETRATE INTO KANDAHAR CITY. MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED AN RA PCST IN THE CITY ON JANUARY 11 KILLING SEVEN REGIME SOLDIERS AND ROCKETED THE CITY OVERNIGHT, JANUARY 8-9. ON JANUARY 9, KANDAHARIS REPORT AN AN-26 WAS DOWNED BY A STINGER MISSILE, PROMPTING HEAVY SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AT THE KANDAHAR AIRPORT. ANOTHER AIRCRAFT REPORTEDLY WAS DOWNED JANUARY 1 IN THE ZANGAWAT AREA. A WESTERN SOURCE WHO VISITED THE KANDAHAR AIRPORT DURING THE WEEK NOTED THAT SOVIET JET AIRCRAFT TRAFFIC WAS HEAVY WITH APPROXIMATELY 40 PAIRS OF AIRCRAFT DEPARTING OVER A THREE HOUR PERIOD. THE SOURCE OBSERVED THAT THE AIRCRAFT WERE PARKED IN CLOSE FORMATION WITHOUT REVEINMENTS ON A RUNWAY APRON, SUGGESTING THE SOVIETS DID NOT FEAR ATTACKS BY MORTARS (WHICH COULD BE USED WITH DEVASTATING EFFECT AGAINST TIGHTLY PARKED AIRCRAFT), AND INDICATING MUJAHIDIN WERE NOT WITHIN MORTAR RANGE OF THE AIRPORT. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE WINDOWS IN THE TERMINAL WERE BROKEN SUGGESTING THE AIRPORT WAS WELL WITHIN ROCKET RANGE, HOWEVER.

8. (U) GHAZNI: AN AFGHAN WHO TRAVELLED TO KABUL FROM KANDAHAR JANUARY 10 SAID THAT ON APPROXIMATELY JANUARY 4, SOVIET OR REGIME AIRCRAFT BOMBED TWO BUSES NEAR GHAZNI TOWN ON THE MAIN HIGHWAY. THE BUSES (FROM GHAZNI) REPORTEDLY HAD BEEN PASSING A MILITARY POST WHICH WAS UNDER ATTACK. THE BUSES WERE STRUCK BY BOMBS

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WHICH CAUSED INTENSE FIRES. IN ALL, 38 CIVILIANS,  
INCLUDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE KILLED. A SECOND  
TRAVELLER WHO TRAVELLED THE ROAD ON JANUARY 5, CLAIMED  
ALSO TO HAVE SEEN THE BURNED-OUT BUSES. HE WAS TOLD

HOWEVER, THAT ONLY 18 PEOPLE DIED IN THE INCIDENT.  
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INFO	LOG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AID-00	INR-10	FUR-00	SS-00
	OIC-02	CIAE-00	H-01	MSC-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	NSAE-00
	SSC-00	EA-00	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	CME-01
	INRE-00	RP-10	ACDA-12	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	FRS-01
	LS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/100 W		

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O 180747Z JAN 88

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7903

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USIA WASHDC 2104

DIA WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAININGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

HQ USAFI RAMSTEIN AB GE

HQ USAFI RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

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ESTC INTEL CPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-IC/CMI//

C C N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 06 OF 10 KABUL 00105

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR

USIAC; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE

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PAGE 02 KABUL 00105 06 OF 10 180851Z

E.C. 12356: DECL: 04/JAN/93

TAGS: FREL, MCPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASIC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

REGULAR AFGHAN CONTACTS WHO HAVE REPORTED ACCURATELY ON

INFORMATION FROM GHAZNI IN THE PAST, CORROBORATE THE

REPORTS OF SOVIET/REGIME ATTACKS ON THE BUSES. ON

JANUARY 8, ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, MUJAHIDIN  
ATTACKED A REGIME POST AT ZANER KHAN (33°40'N 68°38'E).

AN AFGHAN REPORTS THAT IN LATE DECEMBER, FIVE REGIME  
MILITARY OFFICERS CARRYING PAYROLL FUNDS BETWEEN KABUL  
AND GHAZNI WERE KIDNAPPED BY MUJAHIDIN ON THE

KABUL-TC-GHAZNI ROAD. ON JANUARY 11, ACCORDING TO THE

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SAME SOURCE, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED THREE REGIME POSTS IN QARABAGH. ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMATIC SOURCE WITH GOOD ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION, IN LATE-DECEMBER, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED A LARGE COMPOUND IN THE QALIA-I-ABDULLAH MALIKYAR AREA (NEAR GHAZNI TOWN). THE MUJAHIDIN ATTACK FOLLOWED THE SUBORNING OF THE COMPOUND GUARDS. IN THE OPERATION, MUJAHIDIN REPORTEDLY CAPTURED OVER 100 REGIME TROOPS.

9. (U) WARDAK: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS AN EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF A MUJAHIDIN ATTACK AGAINST A LARGE SOVIET/RA POST AT SEYYEDABAD (33°59'N 68°43'E) ON THE KABUL-TO-GHAZNI ROAD. THE SAME DIPLOMAT REPORTS HEAVY FIGHTING AT TANGI (UNLOCATED) ON JANUARY 7. ON JANUARY 2, MUJAHIDIN DOWNED THREE HELICOPTERS: ONE NEAR MAYIAN SHAHR, ANOTHER AT HABDI BAI (NEAR MAIDAN SHAHR), AND A THIRD AT GHOEBANE. IN LATE DECEMBER, MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED POSTS LOCATED AT EITHER END OF THE PUL-I-SORKH (BRIDGE) ON THE KABUL-TO-KANDAHAR ROAD. IN THIS ATTACK,

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PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, MUJAHIDIN CAPTURED APPROXIMATELY 60 REGIME TROOPS FROM THE TWO POSTS.

10. (U) NANGARHAR: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS MUJAHIDIN ATTACKED AN RA UNIT AT GHAZIABAD (34°43'N 70°46'E) DESTROYING FIVE ARMORED VEHICLES AND KILLING

THREE REGIME TROOPS. ON JANUARY 8, MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN TWO REGIME POSTS IN THE SPIN GEAR AREA (33°58'N 70°25'E. SEE PARA 9 REPTTEL FOR EARLIER FIGHTING IN THIS AREA.)

11. (U) BAGHLAN: TWO DIPLOMATS REPORT THE KIDNAPPING OF SENIOR REGIME CADRE IN BAGHLAN PROVINCE. THE MORE DETAILED REPORT CLAIMS THAT THE HEAD OF THE BAGHLAN PROVINCIAL PDPA GHULAM FAROUQ PASCAR AND THE PROVINCE GOVERNOR WERE CAPTURED BY THE MUJAHIDIN ON THE ROAD.

12. (U) ZABOL: TRAVELLERS FROM KANDAHAR REPORT HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE QALAT AREA NEAR THE KANDAHAR-KABUL HIGHWAY ON JANUARY 9-10.

13. (U) FARAB: KANDAHARIS ASSESS THAT THE MOST DANGEROUS PORTION OF THE ROAD FROM KANDAHAR TO HERAT IS IN THE VICINITY OF SHINDAND.

13. (U) PARWAN: ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT, ON OR ABOUT JANUARY 7, MUJAHIDIN REPORTEDLY DOWNED A SOVIET AIR TRANSPORT NEAR BAGRAM AIR BASE KILLING MANY SOVIET TROOPS. ON THE SAME DAY, MUJAHIDIN DOWNED HELICOPTERS IN THE QALA-I-DULAT KHAN AND QARIA-I-MUJAHID AND CHARIKHAR AREAS. ON JANUARY 14, AT QARIA-I-LAGHMAN NEAR CHARIKHAR, MUJAHIDIN OVERRAN FOUR RA POSTS, CAPTURING SOME REGIME TROOPS.

14. (U) HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS:

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO	LCG-00	COPY-01	ADS-00	AIL-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00
	CIC-02	CIAE-00	H-01	MSC-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	NSAE-00
	SSO-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	CMB-01
	INRE-00	RP-10	ACDA-12	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01
	DS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/100 W		

-----070756 180915Z /12

O 180747Z JAN 88

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7904

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USIA WASHDC 2105

DIA WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE

HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

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USLOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

ISTC INTEL CPS CHARLOTTEVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CM1//

C C N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 07 OF 10 KABUL 00105

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLATS; PARIS ALSO FOR

USIAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE

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PAGE 02

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E.C. 12356: DECL: 04/JAN/93

TAGS: PREL, MOPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

A. COMPULSORY LABOR FOR YOUTH: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT

REPORTS THAT 400 KABUL YOUTHS WERE SENT TO KANDAHAR FOR

COMPULSORY LABOR JANUARY 5. KABUL MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHS OF

YOUTHS SENT TO KANDAHAR IN THE FALL FOR COMPULSORY LABOR  
AND WHO RETURNED IN EARLY JANUARY SHOWED YOUTHS IN THEIR  
EARLY TO MID-TEENS.

B. PRESSGANG OPERATIONS INTENSIFY: ON JANUARY 14, OVER  
25 YOUNG MALES WERE TAKEN FROM CLASSES AT KABUL:

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UNIVERSITY FOR SERVICE IN THE REGIME MILITARY. AFGHAN SOURCES ALSO REPORT THAT PARENTS OF YOUTHS ROUNDED UP IN PRESSGANG OPERATIONS TARGETTING YOUTH FOR MILITARY SERVICE ARE FINDING GREAT DIFFICULTY IN LOCATING WHERE THEIR SCNS ARE BEING SENT. THE PREVIOUS PRACTICE OF POSTING LISTS OF NEW "RECRUITS" OUTSIDE INDUCTION CENTERS WHICH INDICATED WHERE THE YOUTHS WERE ASSIGNED HAS BEEN DISPENSED WITH. PARENTS ALSO ARE UNABLE TO LEARN THE WHEREABOUTS OF THEIR SONS THROUGH DIRECT APPEALS TO INDUCTION CENTERS. OFFICIALS REPORTEDLY SIMPLY CLAIM NO KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE YOUTHS. AFGHANS CLAIM THAT PRESSGANG OPERATIONS ARE INTENSIFYING IN KUNDUZ.

C. TREATMENT OF REGIME DEAD AND WOUNDED: ON JANUARY 14, A TRUCK TRANSPORTING DEAD AND WOUNDED REGIME TROOPS ARRIVED AT THE 400 BED MILITARY HOSPITAL IN WAZIR AKBAR KHAN. MANY OF THE WOUNDED, ACCORDING TO AN EYEWITNESS,

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WERE DISTRAUGHT BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN TRANSPORTED OVER A LONG DISTANCE WITH CORPSES.

D. ERMACORA IN KANDAHAR: KANDAHARI RESIDENTS CLAIM THAT "REFUGEES" TO WHOM UN HUMAN RIGHTS RAPORTEUR ERMACORA WAS INTRODUCED AT SPIN BULDAK, WERE IN FACT PEOPLE FROM GROUPS UNDER THE CONTROL OF MUJAHIDIN TURNCOAT ISMATULLAH MUSLIM. IN KANDAHAR, DR. ERMACORA REPORTEDLY WAS SHOWN ONLY THE RELATIVELY LESS DAMAGED

PARTS OF THE CITY.

E. MEAT IMPORTS FROM NEW DELHI: IN ADDITION TO WATER BUFFALO MEAT, THE REGIME INTENDS TO IMPORT CHICKEN AND EGGS FROM INDIA. CONCERN HAS AGAIN BEEN RAISED THAT THE CHICKEN, LIKE THE IMPORTED BUFFALO MEAT (KABUL 0014, PARA 17) HAS NOT BEEN SLAUGHTERED ACCORDING TO ISLAMIC LAW AND THEREFORE IS FOR MUSLIMS NOT EDIBLE.

16. (U) POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS:

A. PEPA PLENUM?: A RELIABLE DIPLOMAT REPORTS THE PEPA MAY CONVENE A PLENUM DURING THIS WEEK. REPORTEDLY, IT WILL ADDRESS PERSONNEL MATTERS AND INVOLVE THE INFUSION INTO THE PARTY OF NEW MEMBERS, PLUS PROMOTION OF SOME MEMBERS TO SENIOR RANKS.

B. SENIOR SOVIETS TO VISIT KABUL AGAIN: USUALLY RELIABLE DIPLOMATS CLAIM THAT A SENIOR SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, POSSIBLY SHEVARENADZE BUT MORE LIKELY DEPUTY MINISTER VORONTSOV, WILL VISIT KABUL SHORTLY, PROBABLY BETWEEN THE VISIT OF UN MEDIATOR CONDOVEZ, NOW EXPECTED AROUND JANUARY 20, AND THE NEXT GENEVA SESSION.

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO	LCG-00	CCPY-01	ADS-00	AIL-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00
	OIC-02	CIAE-00	H-01	MSC-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	NSAE-00
	SSO-00	EA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	CMB-01
	INRE-00	RP-10	ACIA-12	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	FRS-01
	LS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/100 W		

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7905

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFO AFGHAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USIA WASHDC 2106

DIA WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POB//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

HQ USAFI RAMSTEIN AB GE

HQ USAFI RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

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POSTC INTEL CPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CMI//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 08 OF 10 KABUL 00105

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR

USIAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE  
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L.C. 12356: DECI: 04/JAN/93

TAGS: FREL, MOPS, NCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

C. PIPA CADRE MORALE: VARIOUS SOURCES REPORT STRAIN

AND TENSION AMONG PDPA CADRE IN THE WAKE OF SOVIET

FOREIGN MINISTER SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT. ONE REPORT

CONTENDS THAT SEVERAL HUNDRED CADRE SOUGHT SOVIET  
ASSURANCES THAT THEY BE PERMITTED TO GO TO THE SOVIET  
UNION. THE SOVIETS REPORTEDLY HAVE REFUSED. OTHER  
DIPLOMATS REPORT THAT THE PARTY IS DEEPLY DIVIDED,  
ACCOUNTING FOR SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT TO A LARGE NUMBER OF  
INDIVIDUAL PARTY LEADERS. THERE REPORTEDLY IS A SHARP  
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DIVISION IN THE PARTY BETWEEN NAJIBULLAH, WHO FAVORS A RAPID SOVIET WITHDRAWAL AND KHALQI FACTION LEADER AND MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR GULABZOI WHO OPPOSES A RAPID WITHDRAWAL. NUR AHMED NUR, REPORTEDLY REMAINS IN A HOSPITAL, THOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN HINTS AMONG EAST BLOC DIPLOMATS THAT HIS ILLNESS IS POLITICAL, REFLECTING HIS DESIRE TO BE DISTANT FROM PARTY EVENTS AT THE MOMENT.

17. (U) SOVIETIZATION: OF THE PROFESSORS AT KABUL UNIVERSITY, SEVEN ARE EITHER SOVIET OR FROM EAST BLOC NATIONS. THESE INDIVIDUALS REPORTEDLY CLOSELY MONITOR OTHER PROFESSORS AND APPLY PRESSURE TO THOSE AFGHAN PROFESSORS EDUCATED IN THE WEST. MANY OF THE LATTER ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE TRIPS ABROAD--TO THE WEST, IN HOPES THEY WILL NOT RETURN. THE SOVIET AND EAST BLOC PROFESSORS APPEAR TO BE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO REMOVE SUGGESTIONS OF PREVIOUS U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LARGELY U.S. AID-DESIGNED AND BUILT INSTITUTION, INCLUDING REMOVAL OF A PLAQUE WHICH RECOGNIZED AMERICAN

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY.

18. (U) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS:

A. AFGHANI CONTINUES TO PLUMMET: THE AFGHANI SLIPPED TO 205 PER ONE U.S. DOLLAR, AS OF JANUARY 16, A RECORD LOW AND A DECLINE OF THREE PERCENT IN ONE WEEK AGAINST

THE DOLLAR. AFGHANS NOT RECEIVING REGIME SUBSIDIZED FOOD REPORTEDLY, ARE FEELING THE SQUEEZE AS ARE MERCHANTS ATTEMPTING TO IMPORT FOREIGN GOODS FOR DOMESTIC TRADE OR FOR RE-EXPORT TO PAKISTAN.

B. FUEL SHORTAGES: REGIME GAS STATIONS HAVE RESUMED LIMITING HOURS FOR PURCHASE OF GASOLINE AND DIESEL, REPORTEDLY BECAUSE OF NEW SHORTAGES.

C. CAPITAL SLOW TO INVEST IN MANUFACTURING: LOCAL BUSINESSMEN CITE TWO REASONS FOR THEIR RELUCTANCE TO JOIN WITH THE REGIME IN JOINT-VENTURE SCHEMES: ONE IS THE FAR GREATER PROFIT TO BE MADE IN TRADE, PARTICULARLY THE RE-EXPORT TRADE TO PAKISTAN. THE SECOND CONCERN IS THAT THE REGIME EVENTUALLY WILL NATIONALIZE INDUSTRIES, ABSCREING PRIVATE CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN ESSENTIALLY REGIME-ORGANIZED MANUFACTURING FIRMS.

19. (U) REGIME MEDIA:

A. ROCKET ATTACK IN KAPISA: KABUL MEDIA REPORTED, JANUARY 12, THREE PEOPLE WERE KILLED IN A ROCKET ATTACK ON A RESIDENTIAL AREA OF KOHISTAN DISTRICT, KAPISA PROVINCE. NO DATE WAS GIVEN FOR THE ATTACK.

B. TRIBAL GROUPS MEET IN KABUL: REGIME MEDIA REPORTED DURING THE WEEK THAT LEADERS OF THE NURISTANI AND PASHAI

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ACTION NEA-11

INFC	LCG-00	CCFY-01	ADS-00	ALL-00	INR-10	EUR-00	SS-00
	CIC-02	CIAE-00	H-01	MSC-01	IO-19	NSCE-00	NSAE-00
	SSC-00	HA-09	L-03	TRSE-00	PM-10	PA-01	CMB-01
	INRE-02	RP-12	ACIA-12	SP-02	SNP-01	C-01	PRS-01
	IS-01	DSE-00	P-02	T-01	/100 W		

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7906

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

INFC AFGEAN WAR COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

USIA WASHDC 2107

DIA WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GE

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HQ USAFI RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO

USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//

USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//

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ESTC INTEL CPS CHARLOTTEVILLE VA//AIAST-IO/CMH//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 09 OF 10 KABUL 00105

MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLAIS; PARIS ALSO FOR

USIAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAP, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE

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PAGE 02 KAFUL 00105 09 OF 10 180859Z

E.C. 12356: DECI: 04/JAN/93

TAGS: FREL, MCPS, MCAP, PHUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,

ASEC, UR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)

"NATIONALITIES" HELD "TRIBAL JIRGAHS" ALLEGEDLY IN

SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL RECONCILIATION POLICY. THE

MEETINGS WERE HELD IN KABUL RATHER THAN IN THEIR HOME

REGIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN LARGELY OUTSIDE OF REGIME

CONTROL SINCE THE SOVIET INVASION AND OCCUPATION. THE

PARTICIPANTS IN THE REPORTED JIRGAHS APPEAR TO BE

INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN KABUL, MAINLY RETIRED MILITARY

OFFICERS AND OTHER REGIME OFFICIALS WHO PURCHASED

APARTMENTS OR HOUSES IN THE CAPITAL BEFORE THE 1978 COUP.

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C. NORTH KOREAN EMBASSY OPENED: KAEUL TELEVISION ANNOUNCED JANUARY 13, THAT ON JANUARY 11 THE REGIME OPENED ITS NEW EMBASSY IN PYONGYANG.

D. WESTERN REPORTERS TRAVEL TO KHCST: BRITISH JOURNALISTS TRAVELED TO KHOST FROM GARDEZ JANUARY 15. THEY RECOUNTED THEIR OBSERVATIONS OVER A LOCAL GARDEZ RADIO STATION. ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, 47 KMS OF THE GARDEZ TO KHOST HIGHWAY HAVE BEEN REPAIRED AND PAVED AND OVER SEVEN KMS OF NEW ROAD HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED AROUND THE PARTICULARLY BADLY DAMAGED PORTIONS OF THE ROUTE.

E. NAJIBULLAH SAYS REGIME CONTROLS HALF OF AFGHANISTAN'S VILLAGES; HINTS AT IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH INDIA: IN THE PUBLISHED EXCERPTS OF A JANUARY 13 INTERVIEW GIVEN TO THE WASHINGTON POST, NAJIBULLAH CLAIMED THAT ALL PROVINCIAL AND DISTRICT CENTERS, ALL 45 CITIES, 214 DISTRICTS AND 55 PERCENT OF ALL VILLAGES ARE  
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UNDER REGIME CONTROL. NAJIBULLAH ALSO CLAIMED TO HAVE ESTABLISHED "INDIRECT" CONTACT WITH UNNAMED OPPOSITION GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS. COMMENTING ON HIS DECEMBER MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER RAJIV GANDHI HE NOTED THAT: "ONE CAN NOTE THE FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE

PLAYED BY INDIA IN THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE AND SETTLEMENT OF ISSUES AROUND AFGHANISTAN. ALSO, ONE MAY NOTE THE IMPACT OF THIS MEETING ON THE FURTHER CONSOLIDATION OF SOCIOECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL TIES."

F. KABUL TELEVISION ANNOUNCES DATE FOR NEXT GENEVA PROXIMITY TALKS ROUND: KABUL TELEVISION, JANUARY 17, ANNOUNCED THAT THE NEXT ROUND OF GENEVA PROXIMITY TALKS WOULD CONVEENE FEBRUARY 22.

20. (C) NOT TO BE BRIEFED TO PRESS:

A. IRAN TO ACCEPT PDPA ROLE:

IRAN WILL NOW ACCEPT PDPA PARTICIPATION IN A POST-WITHDRAWAL KABUL REGIME. IRAN IS INCINED TO BE LESS CONCERNED ABOUT THE PDPA REGIME BECAUSE IT BELIEVES THAT ISLAM IS NOT UNDER THREAT IN AFGHANISTAN

B. ESMATULLAH REFUSES NAJIBULLAH'S APOLOGY: A RELIABLE SOURCE CLAIMS THAT FOLLOWING THE REGIME SHOOTOUT IN KABUL NOVEMBER 30 IN WHICH ESMATULLAH MUSLIM WAS WOUNDED, THE SOVIETS ORDERED NAJIBULLAH PERSONALLY TO APOLOGIZE TO THE FORMER MUJAHIDIN COMMANDER. NAJIBULLAH AGREED BUT WAS REBUFFED BY ESMATULLAH WHO REFUSED TO RECEIVE HIM. EVENTUALLY, THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR CONVEYED HIS REGRETS, NOTING

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ACTION NEA-11  
INFC ICG-00 CCPY-01 ADS-00 AII-00 INR-10 EUR-00 SS-02  
OIC-02 CIAE-00 H-01 MSC-01 IC-19 NSCE-00 NSAE-00  
SSC-00 EA-09 L-03 TRSI-00 PM-10 PA-01 CFP-01  
INRE-00 RP-10 ACDA-12 SP-02 SNP-01 C-01 FRS-01  
IS-01 DSE-00 P-02 T-01 /100 W  
-----070771 180916Z /12

O 180747Z JAN 88  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7907  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE  
INFC AFGEAN WAR COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
USIA WASHDC 2108  
DIA WASHDC  
JCS WASHDC  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
FT BRAGG NC AFVS//POE//SB  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
CINCUSAREUR BRIDELBERG GE  
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE  
HQ USAF RAMSTEIN AB GE//INCO  
USNMR SHAPE BE//INTAFF//  
USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL//CCJ2-IOM//  
DEFENSE COMMUNICATION SUPPORT GROUP  
RUCLENA/347 TFW MCODY AFB GA//IN//  
USLOCSCUTH NAPLES IT  
FSIC INTEL OPS CHARLOTTESVILLE VA//AIAST-10/CM//  
C C N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 10 OF 10 KABUL 00105  
MILITARY ADDRESSEES ALSO FOR POLADS; PARIS ALSO FOR  
USDAO; DEPARTMENT ALSO FOR NEA/PAB, MR. BRUNO; THE HAGUE  
FOR A-DAM

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E.O. 12356: DECL: 04/JAN/93  
TAGS: FREL, MCPS, MCAP, PRUM, PINS, PINR, PROP, SREF,  
ASEC, UR, AF  
SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN SITUATION REPORT (JANUARY 11 - 17)  
THAT THE SOVIETS HAD NO FOREKNOWLEDGE OF WHAT HAPPENED.  
C. KHOST CASUALTY FIGURES: FIGURES SOURCED TO  
PAKISTAN CLAIM THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES IN THE KHOST

FIGHTING (FIRST FIVE WEEKS): SOVIET DEAD TOTALLED 200;  
REGIME LEAD 500; MUJAHIDIN DEAD 150; REGIME TROOP  
SURRENDERS 500.

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D. KHOST POPULATION VIEWS: THE POPULATION OF KHOST,  
WHICH HAD BEEN LARGELY NEUTRAL TOWARD THE WAR.

B125  
B125

21. MOSCOW MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. MCWILLIAMS  
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